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MERCHAN ROS: Deputy Mirector (Busport)

: Maleractice Insurance for Agency Spitical

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i. This memorantum contains a recommendation for action by the 20/6. This recommendation is contained in passgraph 6.

- At the request of this staff, afficials of the Office of Personnel have explored the possibility of obtaining malpreciate insurance for Agency medical officers. A meeting with Mr. John B. Clark of the Milaughlin Company of Auchington, D. C., Snaped. That company quotes the rates for this type of insurance as indicated in the attached rate schedule.
- Suring the Fer Seat Medical Conference in October 1975, a number of the Constal Constal's staff discussed medica-logal problems. No stated that physicians employed by the U.S. Government and act hat there had been recent judgments unde against military medical officers. Moreover, he indicated that there has been not only an increasing trend toward verdicts favoring plaintiffs, but larger mass averded as well. In view of the expending profunctional responsibilities being placed on Agency physicians, it follows that they are in greater judgmenty of malpractice suits than ever before. Since this risk exists through the performance of official duty, it is believed that the cost of premiums for malpractice insurance stand be borne by the Agency.

The highest (100/300) limits of coverage are indicated for Agreedy physicians. Physicians are rectinely capaged in the treatment of patients and therefore should be covered. The outlanted annual cost for the coverage of these medical officers, as determined by the rate group into which they fall, is as follows:

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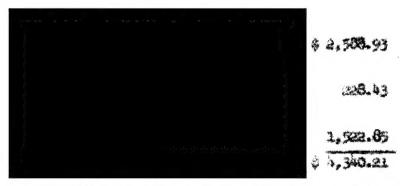


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SUBJECT: Maluractice Insurance for Assett Modical Officers

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This mount cannot be defrayed from current finds allocated to the Medical Staff.

- 5. The foregoing tetinate includes reversi Agency medical officer positions which are currently encumbered by medical officers detailed from the military services and the United States Public Health Pervice. Such detailed modical officers would not 52 covered baring the initial implementation of this progress.
- 6. It is therefore recommended that \$2,555.04 be enthorised for this purpose for the initial year of coverage, with funds for ashaquent years to be determined by the providing rates and the major of physicians to be covered. It is further recommended that the Director of Personnel be authorised to make the accessary arrangements for this importance coverage.

TO JOHN H. TIKNES, N.D. Unier, Medical staff

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The recommendation contained in Fernance 6 is openwed.

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matribution:

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2 - Dapity Director (Support) - Cleaners Budjal reading

1 - General Counsel

2 - Chief, Medical Saff

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